



IN REPLY REFER TO: MT-450

# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Great Plains Region

Montana Area Office

P.O. Box 30137

Billings, Montana 59107-0137



May 31, 2011

## **FAXOGRAM: Water Order Change**

To: Chief, Power Supply and Billing Division, WAPA, Watertown, South Dakota  
Attention: F-6001  
Chief, Power Dispatching Branch, WAPA, Loveland, Colorado  
Attention: J-4120  
Facilities Manager, Hardin, Montana  
Attention: MT-300: Tom Tauscher  
Project Manager, Mills, Wyoming  
Attention: WY-4000, WY-4100, WY-6400  
Assistant Superintendent, National Park Service, Lovell, Wyoming  
Attention: Valerie Newman

From: Reservoir and River Operations, Billings, Montana

Subject: **Yellowtail Water Release Order - BHR No. 11-47**

### **CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS (May 31, 2011: 10:00am)**

Elevation: 3630.43 Storage: 915,289 acre-feet; River Release: 8,000 cfs; Inflow: 14,800 cfs;

### **GENERAL COMMENTS:**

Due to recent precipitation during May 29-30, streamflows downstream of Yellowtail Dam have increased but are now receding. In response, the following operation change is required at Yellowtail Dam and Powerplant to control reservoir storage and continue preparing for the anticipated snowmelt.

### **YELLOWTAIL TURBINE RELEASE:**

**At 1300 hour on Tuesday, May 31, 2011:**

*Maintain average daily turbine release at 5,750 cfs ( $\approx$  4,395 MW-Hrs/day using 31.4 cfs/mw).*

**At 1700 hour on Tuesday, May 31, 2011:**

*Maintain average daily turbine release at 5,750 cfs ( $\approx$  4,395 MW-Hrs/day using 31.4 cfs/mw).*

### **YELLOWTAIL BYPASS RELEASE:**

**At 1300 hour on Tuesday, May 31, 2011:**

*Decrease all releases through the river outlet gates and initiate and maintain releases through the spillway gates at 3,180 cfs.*

**At 1700 hour on Tuesday, May 31, 2011:**

*Increase releases through the spillway gates to 4,180 cfs.*

### **AFTERBAY RELEASE AND OPERATION:**

**At 1300 hour on Tuesday, May 31, 2011:**

*Maintain diversions to the bighorn Canal at 0 cfs.*

*Increase river release to 9,000 cfs (gage height = 63.55 with -0.12 shift).*

*Increase total release from the Afterbay to 9,000 cfs.*

**At 1700 hour on Tuesday, May 31, 2011:**

*Maintain diversions to the bighorn Canal at 0 cfs.*

*Increase river release to 10,000 cfs (gage height = 63.88 with -0.12 shift).*

*Increase total release from the Afterbay to 10,000 cfs.*

### **SPECIAL AFTERBAY OPERATION REQUIREMENT:**

**Maintain the level of the Afterbay at or above elevation 3185.5 until further notice.**

/S/ Tim H. Felchle